

Comisión Interamericana del Atún Tropical  
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission



## Joint recommendations of the IATTC scientific staff and the SAC on management and conservation of Pacific bluefin tuna, 2021

Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group Meeting on the Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna, 6<sup>th</sup> Session  
27-29 July 2021 (electronic meeting)

- PBF stock status: 2020 ISC stock assessment
- Joint IATTC scientific staff and SAC recommendations

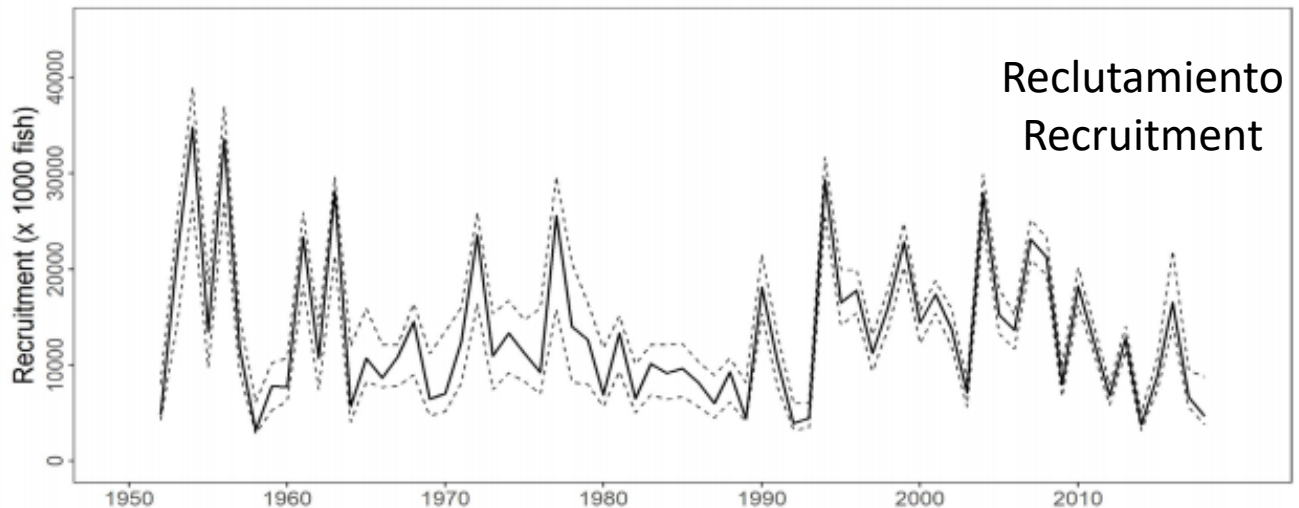
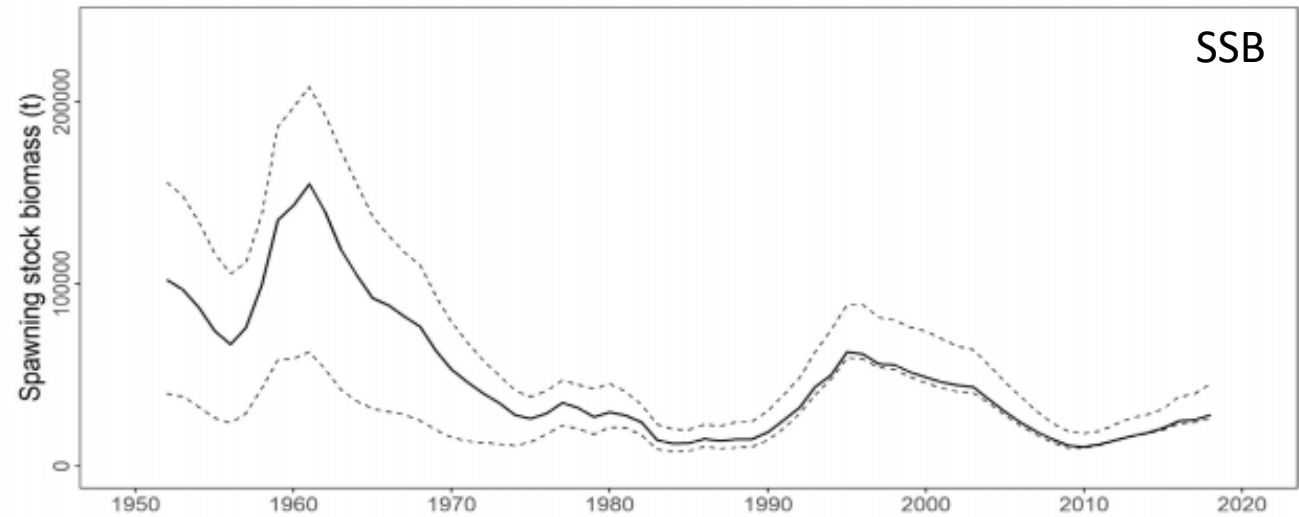


- **Biomass**

- Large long-term fluctuations
- Stock highly depleted and near lowest level
- Gradual rebuilding since 2011

- **Recruitment**

- Highly variable
- Regime shifts
- Relatively high in 2016





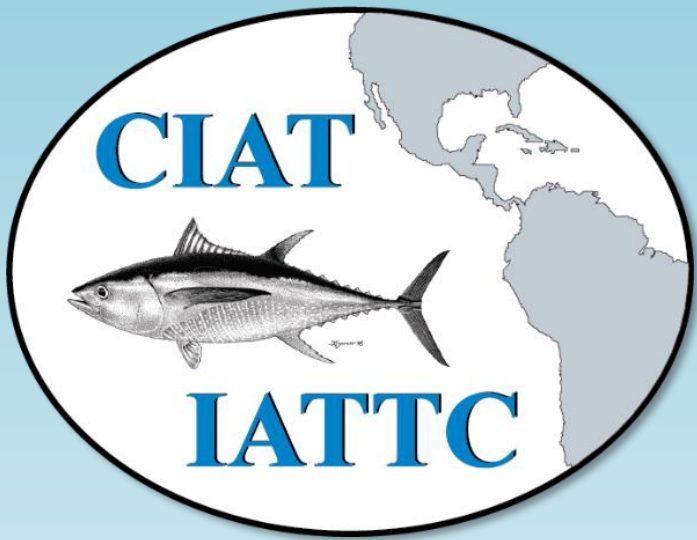
- Resolutions C-18-01 (extended by C-20-02) and C-18-02:
  - Commercial catch limit, 2019-2020: **6,200 t**, 2021: **3,925**
  - **Initial target (2024):** SSB 1952-2014 median (min. 60% probability)
  - **Second target:** 20% SSB<sub>F=0</sub>, **within 10 years of reaching initial target or by 2034** (min. 60% probability), whichever is earlier
- Harvest strategy proposed by IATTC-WCPFC Working Group:
  - Projected probability of reaching initial target by 2024 < **60%** : reduce catch; > **75%**: increase catch limit (provided the probability is maintained at 70% or higher, and the probability of reaching the second target remains at least 60%)



- Projections based on current management and low recruitment:
  - Probability of reaching initial target by 2024: **100%**
  - Probability of reaching second target: **99%**
- Potential increase in catch
- Projections strongly influenced by the 2016 recruitment estimate (improved estimate in the 2020 assessment)



The staff and the SAC recommend the extension of the provisions of Resolution C-18-01, as already extended by Resolution C-20-02, and that the Commission take note that increased catches based on the scenarios analyzed are possible under the harvest strategy prepared by the joint tuna RFMOs Working Group. The choice of catch scenario should take into account the desired rebuilding rate and the distribution of catch between small and large bluefin.



Questions